THE NATIONAL GAME

Opening of the Season Now that, it may safely be supposed, winter test taken its departure and mildness, ethereal or otherwise, is about to come and remain, the ball players are rejoiced, and extensive preparations are being to render the coming season one of the mos somewhat chaotic state in which the ballistic matters were thrown at the conclusion of last season has been reduced to comparative order. For the fraternity and ball matters in general, as Mort Rogers, "way down East to Boston," has chronicled them so faithfully as to leave little to be done. For the general Association, at its last meeting, drew a line which divides professionals from amateurs. There need be no more subterfuges resorted to with the idea of leading people to believe that players are not professionals and do not play ball for pecuniary con siderations. No person thinks ill of an actor or ar acrobat who receives a regular salary for his performance, and certainly a professional ball player should be as honored and as honorable as any other

The rule adopted at the last meeting of the asso ciation by which club nines are obliged to be com posed of persons who have been at least sixty days in the club will have a salutary effect on the gam and render the movements of "revolvers" not quite necessary, however, to refer to the amended rules, as the books of reference, guides and manuals have all been published and by this time are extensively circulated and the rules no doubt well studied up Now that the bright, warm sun light may be looked for more continuously, the frost must soon be en tirely thawed out of the sod and the proprietors of

for more continuously, the frost must soon be entirely thawed out of the sod and the proprietors of various enclosed.

GROUNDS EROUND THE CITY
Will begin in a few days to put on the necessary touches to place the grounds in good condition and proper base bail trim. Cammeyer has been utilizing the lower portion of the grounds by making a velocipede track and thus beautifying the ground at the same time. At the Union grounds the Mutuals and Eckfords will practise and play their match games. The Capitoline grounds will this year be in fine condition. The Atlantics having determined to make the Capitoline their battle ground this season will cause it to be visited much more numerously and frequently. The Excelsion, Sfar and Fowhatan clubs will also make the Capitoline their heath, and from all these there should be produced amusement enough to bring the admirers of the game thicker in large numbers. The Carroll Fark grounds will of course be extensively patronized by embryo champion ball-tossers. The grounds at Hoboken, it is hoped, will be somewhat better attended to than they were hast season. The old clubs will practise there, but as there has been no infinantion of a rescinding of the silly rule forbidding the playing of matches at the Elysian Fields, the clubs must go some place cise to do their battling. Of the other grounds in the neighborhood of the city there none so generally known as to require special mention. The Fark grounds will be reserved for the public school juveniles. Judging from present appearances the base ball fever will be as bad as ever this year. During the prevalence of the equinocital last week a crowd of hair-grown ballats were seen conning up Anal street from Peck's all-armed with new bats, and the delight with which they clutched the clubs and swung them around trying to bat the bails of rain as they fell may sever veident and drew a smile from many who hurried by. From this exhibition, slight as it-may seem to be, the fact may be adduced that the fever has set in aiready and will ra

the field they make themselves heard, especially if Davis be around.

The Empires have been exceedingly dormant during the winter. An effort was made to get up a meeting but the secretary could not be found nor could his books be found, so that when a few of those who took an interest in the club came together at Voorhees' they were obliged to adjourn to some future day. It is to be hoped that "duture day" its at hand and that the Empires will at once set about completing arrangements for the season. John Kelly will be in their nine this year and with Wilson, Post, Miller, M. Nesten, Williamson and a few other sprightly young amsteurs that intend to make a good stand.

The Actives have almost completed their arrange-

and.
The Actives have almost completed their arrange ments. There was some task to the effect that Mar-tin and Jewett would be in the Active nine this year. Whether that point is settled yet or not cannot be said. The Actives will play on the amateur basis entirely and will no doubt worry the aspirants for that "whip" which somebody says will be "up" for the amateurs.

that "whip" which somebody says will be "up" for the amateurs.

The Gothams say they will present a live team this year. This club was drooping very fast and a number of overgrown boys seemed to be the powerful aids to the club. The state of affairs was so bad as to actually shame the old members into taking an interest in the matter, and the result has been that they have reorganized on a firm basis. Mr. E. B. Barnum has been elected president, and a good corps of officers has been chosen to assist him.

The Eagles will, no doubt, fly as high this year as they did last, and will make as many successful swoops. It is rumored that Norton, their gentlemanly first base player, will not appear on the field this season, and that John Goldie will do the first base basiness. Mr. Goldie will be an acquisition to any club, either as a member or a player.

The stars have determined to make the amateurs open their eyes during the season. They have a good nine, as usual, and will hit so hard as to make their opponents "see stars." The fractraity at large will be pleased to know that Macdarmid is rapidly regaining his health. This, of course, does not refer to William: he is always healthy. Thomas, the well

to William: he is always healthy. Thomas, the well known second base man, was obliged to visit Cubs for the cenefit of his health, and when he comes back here he will no doubt astonish his old friends. He amuses himself daily by catching the musked and cannon balls while they are being exchanges by the Strangards and Calana.

and cannon balls while they are being exchanged by the Spaniards and Cubanian. The old Powhatan Club is in a fourishing condi-tion and intends to make a stir among the ballists. The "Pow-wows" have organized a good, strong nine, and have challenged the Mutual, Atlantic, Union, Excessior, Star, Active and a number of other clubes.

other clubs.

The Unions, of Morrisanis, have determined to stand on the amateur ground this season. This movement on their part is a good one, and cannot fail to have a good effect on the game in Westchester.

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The Eurekias, of Newark, will undoubtedly be among the leading amateur organizations. The club is well known as being a model, both in the style of members and mode of management, and can present a nine of gentlemaniy players second to none in the country; but they do not depend upon their fine players for renown. The solid men are to be found in the "muffin nine" and a better set cannot be collected except in the Empire Club of this city. The contests between the "muffin size of the present year. The Nationals, of Albany, one of the most solid clubs in the State, as well as the Knickertockers, both composed of gentlemanty young bail players, will frequently be heard from.

The Excelsiors, of Brooklyn, will also maintain their position in the amateur ranks, which frequently be heard from.

The Athlete, of Washington Heights; Athletic, of Brooklyn; Mohawk, of Brooklyn; Glympic, of New York, Jefferson, Social and the numerous other amateurs will each do their share to add to the season's festivities. Of the principal prooffsessional Clubs, the Mutuals, on account of their standing, must come first. There was some doubt entertained for a time as to where the club would practice. It was supposed for a time that they would go to Tremont, but bester sense prevailed and the Union grounds, with its new jawbreaking name, because of its easy access to the city, has been determined on. The athae will comprise Wasters, Charles Mills (late of the Atlantic), George Mills, Flanny, Swandeil, Hatfield, Regiler and R. Hunt, Mills will fine minself obliged to hop about rather more lively than he did behind "The Charmer," and if ne can do it the Mutual nine will be hard to beat. Their most powerful opponents, of coarse, will be mark to beat. Their most powerful opponents, of coarse, will be "The Atlantics, but as they did so well

SPORTING.

The Prize Ring. To so now almost time that pugilists should be pro-hibited from exhibing their engrammatical contests in newspapers. Nothing to their minds sounds so magnificent as to fight in print, or rather nothing so satisfactorily reciprocates the empty, faint jingle of their pockets. Prize fighting is now almost a thing of the past, and none, even including pugilists themselves, regret its abolition. To be sure, themselves, regret its abolition. To be sure, we will be treated to sparring exhibitions, which, though generally not exercising a magnetic influence over the aristocracy, are, nevertheleas, harmless in their way. The newspaper conflict between McCoole and Allen has resulted in a mutual abandonment of any design of contest, and both men, therefore, deserve suitable testimonials. It appears that notwithstanding repeated efforts on the part of Allen he has been unable to entice any Western puglist to engage with him. But few events are now in anticipation, among them being:—April 17, John Dempsey and Matt Boyle, in Connecticut, for \$250 a side; May 17, Mike Burke and Harry Stephens, for \$300 a side.

The deciding game between Dion and Foster, which is to take place at Montreal on Tuesday, has up to the present excited the greatest interest, owing, doubtless, to the extreme difficulty to the apparent equality of the contestants. It will readily be remembered that after a most interesting struggle Poster won the first match, consisting of 300 points, French caroms, by only four points, while the Canadian was declared the victory in a game of 1,200, American carons, having defeated his opponent by 84 points. Now comes the tug of war, the great battle which is to determine the final victor. The forthcoming match is to be 2,000 points. Some aver that there is no such thing as luck, but experience in bilitaris has satisfactorily demonstrated the contrary. Let us hope, however, that "the best man wins." The betting at present is almost even, each of the contestants being the favorite of his admirers. Poster was never in better practice than at the present. According to ceriam statements there is every hope that he will carry the honors at Montreal.

It is stated that Cyrille Dion has made the best average at the push-barred game on a pocket tuble.

A challenge has been tendered Vermeulen by Frank Parker to play in June next for \$200 and the championship of Illinois. The result of the match between Vermeulen and Honahan was generally anticipated. The former won, his score being 1,200 and bis onopently 916.

anticipated. The former won, his score being 1,200 and his opponent's 910.

The following are the principal events announced to come off—April 6, Foster and Dion, at Montreal, 2,000 point game: 28th, in New York, tournament for the championship of the improved American game.

Shooting.

As already mentioned in the HERALD Taylor and Tucker have matched themselves for a purse of \$2,000 to shoot at 100 birds each. The contest is fixed for the 28th inst., at Dubois' track, Eighth ave

nixed for the 28th inst., at Dubois' track, Fighth avenue and 14th street.

The following matches are announced:—April 6, Henry Wicks and Henry Burrill, at Hartford, Conn.; 16th, Desmond and Turner, at Hartford, for \$100 a side; Poliock and Westmore, at Worcester, Mass., for \$100; 14th, James Devlin and Martin Austin, at Troy, for \$75 a side; 16th, Henry Sair and James G. Matthews, at Worcester, Mass., for \$50 a side.

Pedestrianism.

Unfortunate as it may appear, pedestrians in this country are not likely to be ever able to speculate sionals of respectable pretension seem perhaps un willingly to countenance the weaknesses of their frail whingly to conficient the Weston-Payne walking match of 100 miles for \$500 has come to a very unsatisfactory termination, owing to a most trivial difficulty which arose in the course of their journey. It is never too late to mend.

At the recent Pedestrian Congress held in Whitby, Ontario, an athletic club was formed, which promises well, considering the circumstances surrounding its inauguration.

mises well, considering the circumstances surrounding its inauguration.

A foot race has been arranged between James Gray and Henry Waish, two Trojans. They have signed articles to run 100 yards on the 17th proximo, for \$100 a side, at Troy.

The following matches are announced:—April 6—James Weir and Andrew Boyne, at Rochester, N. Y., for \$100 a side; Itth—James Stedman and an unknown, at ———, for \$500; 22d—Moses Patterson and H. Warren, at Columbus, O., a two mile race. May 1—W. Mairs and C. Downing, at Chicago, for \$500; 2d—James Myers and Edwin Laird, at Springeld, for \$200; 5th—J. Stark and Richard Garrin, at Rochester, for \$100; 5th—Sam Meany and James Johnson, at Avon Springs, for \$100 a side; —W. Randolph and Jus, Coulter, at ———, for \$100 a side; 23d—Lionei Curtis and Frank McNell, at Hartford, for \$200.

There is nothing short of extreme briskness ex hibited among the various boating clubs at the pre-sent time, in anticipation of one of the pleasantest seasons that have occurred for years past. Among other events
William Hays and James Shaw have been matched

William Hays and James Shaw have been matched for a five mile race, in seventeen foot working boats, for \$200 a side, the race to take place on the 27th inst. over the course of the Hudson River Rowing Association.

On the 13th J. Melching and Henry Waldron will pull a match at Harlem for \$200 a side, and on the 29th John Minor and John Fields, on the Harlem river or at the Elysan Fields, for \$250 a side.

There are also mentioned the following contests:—May—S. Waterbury, of the Atlanta, and H. Spear, three miles, at Elysian Fields, for a \$50 prize; 16th—John Collins and Buck Hayes, three miles, for \$100, at Port Clossier; 20th—Hudson Amateur Rowing Association Regatta. Boboken. June 6—James Armstrong and Richard Humphries, at Ottawa, C. W., for \$100, to row two miles.

THE WEDGE IN NEW ENGLAND REPUB-LICANISM.

The War Against Senator Sprague, of Rhode

Prom the Boston Advertiser (anti-Sprague republican), April 2.]

It is almost impossible to treat these extraordinary ontbreaks of Mr. Sprague's seriously. The first seemed like the escapade of an hour, the truit of a bottle of wine too much or a dinner badly digested. But now they have been prolonged so far that attention cannot be withheld. The problem which they present is not one of easy solution, and to the foreign student of our affairs will seem unterly inexplicable. Here is a man of mature years, high position and some training in public life, moving, as he is pleased to boast, in the best society which a republic like ours produces, who saddenly and upon no special occasion shouts forth from his pedestal a lamentation more mournful than that of Jereman. His complaints are curiously incongruous. The country is on the verge of ruin. There are too many lawyers in the Senate. The private morals of the people are corrupt. No husband dare turn his back upon his wife. The reign of terror which exists is due to a party whose every measure for the past six years, wise and otherwise, has received the Senator's vote. The manufacturers of New England will soon have to stop their spindles because they are losing money. The firm of which the Senator is a member, to be sure, is coming weath, but it is only by crushing out its competitors. Ignorance of financial affairs show itself in the Senator is a member, to be sure, is coming weath, but it is only by crushing out its competitors. Ignorance of financial affairs show itself in the Senator Authony republican), April 3.]

In calling attention to the remarkable passage in the Senate detate of Fuesday, the official report of which we print this morning, very few words of explanation from us are needed. On Wednesday inglit of last week we received a felegraphic synopasis of Senator Sprague's speech, in which that generative was the surface of such sentiments by a Robot lain which the seriously deprecated when he heard the President in his inaugural assert the sections o

standing in this community and of unobtrusive habits whom kind fortune has kappily spared the need or inclination to examine reports of Congres-sional debates and comment thereon for the public press at two o'clock in the morning.

VELOCIPEDE NOTES.

They've got a cure for it in this city. And an eminent physician says he'll risk his repu ation on the assertion that a ride up West Broadway

will cure the worst case of it. That Common Council resolution to prohibit the

ase of velocipedes in the public thoroughfares will probably be "called up" to-morrow. And if the Aldermen have any sense they will "postpone it indefinitely," and adopt an ordinance regulating their use instead of prohibiting them. Some of the streets in this city couldn't be ridden

on any way, and West Broadway is one of them. So the city "dads" needn't adopt any resolution regarding that thoroughfare-unless it be one directing it to be repayed.

ck pavements" are said to be the best

for velocipede riding. So be careful, Messrs. Aldermen, or some of the veloce fanciers will make a roadway of your heads. Although experience might prove the material to be somewhat soft.

Riding schools are being established fast But people don't want to stay indoors for their

when the fine weather comes. The Pearsail Brothers inaugurate their "gymnacyclidium" to-morrow night at the Apollo Building. The arena has an area of 8,000 square feet, and a galery with seats that will afford accommodation to 1,500 spectators.

All the various styles of velocipedes are to be exnibited, and fifty experts will display their skill. Miss Pearsall will exhibit her skill on the "Peer ess," a new ladies' veloce, and Dodworth's band will furnish the music for a quadrille, &c.
Chase, at the Astor Velocipede Hall, in Vesey

treet, is doing a big business, and has recently added some elegant new machines to his stock. At Pangborn's Bicyclodrome, Fulton street, some capital displays were made on Thursday last by a

couple of experts from Boston.

Perego's Nassan street school is a favorite place for lawyers, clerks and "down town business men," and some "airish" riders frequent the place.

The Empire Rink has the largest floor for velocipede exercise in the city, or in the United States even, for a roofed building, and is frequented by large number of the Central Park riders.

Cammeyer's "Amphycyclotheatron" on the Union grounds, Brooklyn, has been "alive" since its mauguration, and the quarter of a mile open air track has proved an immense success, as it affords oppor-tunities for practice on straight riding, curves, in-

clined planes, &c.

The "Velocipedrome" on Hicks street is intended for ladies as well as gentlemen, and all the leading halls are preparing for the introduction of the 'gentle sex." Woman's rights, Susan B. says, "All the sex." Woman's rights, Susan B. Susan B. Tight."
The Jersey City Velocipedrome and Parlor Skating Rink is the "centre of attraction" on the other side of the water, and "Frank" feels jubilant at the prospect. The arena is one of the finest in the United

of the water, and "Frank" feels jubilant at the prospect. The arena is one of the finest in the United States.

They have a velocipede rink in Omaha, which has just been opened. It is drawing large crowds.

Central City, Colorado, has a velocipede, which is owned by a livery stable keeper, and attracts large crowds of the curious. He says he is going to lock the "critter," as he can't stand the wear and tear on his stable.

The Nashville Blood Horse Association offers a purse for the fastest velocipede time at their approaching fair.

A writter in the Portsmouth (Va.) Chronicle advocates the right of velocipedists to exercise on the sidewalks, for the reason that some of the loaders who stand at corners and insuit ladies might chance to get their legs broken, in which event the rider would be entitled to the thanks of all good citizens.

"Straddle dresses" is the name given to the veloci-

would be entitled to the thanks of all good citizens. "Straddle dresses" is the name given to the volocipede costume for ladies.

Carrie A. Moore, "Queen of the Velocipede," astonished the "Down Easters" at the City Hall, Portiand, last might, and will do so again to-morrow night, if they recover from the last surprise sufficiently to attend. Carrie's riding costume is a pretty blue tune, fitting the body closely, with a short skirt, trimmed with red cloth and gold lace; desh-colored tigats, covered to the knee with loose red tranks, with broad blue stripes on the sides. On her head a jaunty little cap, matching weil with the rest of her costume, with a long waving ostrich plume.

plume.
The Elnore Velocipede Troupe, comprising Mile.
Elnore and her sisters Lizette, Elva Bertha, Estelle,
Marletta and "Le Petit" Lizzie made their debut at
Boston lately. They are very expect, graceful and
finely formed. finely formed.

Edward Green recently made two miles (ninety-six circuits of the arena) in ten minutes, at a rink in the

Enward trees recently made two miles (mety-six circuits of the arena) in ten minutes, at a rink in the "Hub."

A velocipede association has been formed by a number of the "go it gracefuia" of this city.

A "sailing velocipede" is described by a San Francisco paper as follows:—An improved three whoeled velocipede, with a mast and large square sail, was navigated over the Point Labos road. The machine made good time, up hill or down, and particularly when returning to the city with favorable wind. It is about five feet in length by five in breadth, and not unlike a light high-wheeled buggy. The hind wheels are four feet in diameter and the forward one about thirty inches. In its management the sail and fore wheel are both adjusted by cords attached to the driver's seat. When the sail is set the view ahead is nearly obstructed, but by means of two large holes or eyes cut in the canvas at about the height of the head the vehicle is directed with safety.

A contest took place a short time since between a number of gentlemen belonging to the Liverpool (England) velocipede citab on an ordinary road, and Mr. Browne (!) was the winter. Distance, eight miles; time, forty four mitues.

A naniew of the contest of the properties of the lead the well-set in the properties of the properties of the lead the vehicle is directed with safety.

with.

The sensation of riding over the Belgian pavement is described as "akin to that enjoyed in an empty coal cart, when the horse is on a lazy trot."

The State Agricultural Society offers a special premium for the best and fastest velocipede; and one for the negro boy, ten years or under, that can ride a horse in the best style and on the fastest gait.

The word velocipede forty years ago was pronunced in five syllables, ve-lo-cip-de, with the accent upon the ante-penuli. It was then called the "dandy horse."

Forty years afterwards it was abbreviated to

The word velocipede forty years ago was pronounced in five syllables, ve-lo-cip-i-de, with the accent upon the ante-penult. It was then called the "dandy horse."

Forty years afterwards it was abbreviated to "veloce," and the "dandy" was the rider.

Frank Rivers announces a "Grand National Velocipede Exhibition" early in May, open to all the States, to be given at the Jersey City Velocipedrome. Valuable prizes will be offered, and all contests will be subject to printed rules. Two silver medials were given by Frank on Priday night for fastest time, one mile. Young Schenck and Horton were the winners; the former's time being 4:38 and the latter's 4:47.

Frank Sebring's Velocipede Academy, at Willett's Opera House, Brooklyn. E. D., is a neat and handsome place for exercise, and is patronized by the cilic of the City of Churches, including both sexes. Frank is well known as the "pitcher" of the Empire's but the ball-tossing fraternity need not fear for his health: he can stand the "fever."

There are fifty velocipede schools in Boston.

The St. Nicholas Velocipede Rink at Saratoga was burned about a week since. Loss \$20,000.

Petront has two velocipederomes.

Frank Smith will shortly do the veloce in Buffalo. Among the matches announced to take place are the following:—"Wall' Brown (the oarsman) and B. H. Billings, at Mystic Park, Boston, \$250 a side, to come off this month: F. Kinney, two miles against time, Boston, May 14, for \$100; Professor Sweet against time, Jone 1, for \$5,000.

"An's Brady's riding at the opening of the Jersey City Velocipederome was greatly admired for grace, dexterity and dash. Hlp, hip for "Ab."

Frederick Hanlon, of the Hanlon brothers, challenges any person in the United States to a two wheeled velocipede race for \$10,000 aside and the championship, three heals, half a mile cach, best two in three, time between each heat eighteen minutes. The party accepting the challenge may choose a moditue of the ordinary make now in general use, front wheel not to exceed forty-one inches. Race to t

THE DOWNING WILL CASE. The Downing WI THE DOWNING WILL CASE.—The Downing will case, which has been on trial before their fusition Carter for the last ten days, was closed yesterday. The case was on issues sent from the Orphane Court to try the validity of the will of Joseph M. Downing, and has excised a good deal of interest The jury, after an absence of about fifteen minutes, rendered a vertice in layor of the will on all the issues. The amount involved in this case was something over \$40,000—Washington Intelligencer, April 2.

POTATORS.—Our Maine exchanges say that ther is a great surplus of potatoes in that State, of a unusually fine quality, and that before planting tim the prices will become considerably reduced. To supply in the West this spring is also very large. Boston Journal, April 2.

THE DRESS OF THE PERIOD.

To What It Has Already Come-What It Costs in 1869 to Own and Keep a Wife and Grown-up Daughter-Blessed be He Who Hus None-The Street Dress of the Nineteenth Century—The Ball Dress of the Eighteenth—Grand Opening Week—Much Fluttering Amang Week-Much Fluttering Among the But-terflies and Trying on of New Spring

Wings by Them.
"They toil not, neither do they spin, and yet I say unto you that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." Allusion is here, of course, made to the butterfly of the period, known in other climes and times as woman. "Vanity o quote we, but the trouble is, you can't get the fasci nating creatures to believe it.

It has been ill-naturedly asserted—of course by

some unappreciative brute of a husband or brother, whose piethoric pocketbook has been bled to the tune of the desired fifty dollars or so necessary for the coveted feminine pur-chase—that the churches of the city for the present day will be gay as blossoming parterres with the bewildering harvested results of the past opening week in dazzling Paris millinery, since to so many women, the same authentic croaker continues the "litany and creed" never sound so comforting a when lisped 'neath the shade (?) of the traditionary two rosebuds and ribbon passed under the clim called, par courtesy, a modern bounet, and sprung to bloom and christened in the latest "opening." And no one really minds calling one's self "a miserable sinner" under the circumstances and in such excel ent company, even out loud, for the whole congre gation to hear when one is sure of its being received peforehand with the customary grano satis and in the dialect of the nineteenth century ironically con sidered only an amusing fashionable travestic upor the literal truth.

But the question naturally arises and obtrudes itself pertinently. When is this matter of yearly increasing extravagance in feminine dress to end? To which, in answer, the equally pertinent reloinder O, for the days of Evelike simplicity of attire! Or if not actually of "nothing to wear," at least of a little less, both as to cost and material, than poor laden woman, worse than any veritable Eastern packhorse—or, more properly speaking, mule—that she is, under the present fishiornable regime, insists upon bending her fair figure under, in order to keep up with the extravaganzas of the styles of 1869.

During the past ten or twelve years the materials imported for ladies' dresses for ordinary street wear nave more than doubled, in some instances trebled, in value; and this estimate puts veritable velvets, heavy silks, saths and real laces—always ruinously expensive feminine caprices—out of the question entirely, and includes only the innumerable heavy dress materials, which, in variety and number, have increased literally at infinitum within that space of time, and to carry out the Latin comparison, have been and are still coupled with prices gotten up therally ad lithium, but not by the unfortunate purchaser. if not actually of "nothing to wear," at least of

increased literally act infinitum within that space of time, and to carry out the Latin comparison, have been and are still coupled with prices gotten up literally ad libitum, but not by the unfortunate purchaser.

The latest rage—absolute furor—especially within the past winter, has been and is yet, for that matter, although an old story abroad, the new and favorite velveteen suits, which material, by the way, in the eyes of so many disgusted and hoodwinked masculines, seems to be veritable velvet. Well, it is not; but as to price, when completed, it might almost as well be. Any or every velveteen suit worn so becomingly by its fair owner, unless of the absolute "scrubby" and montestably "cottony" stuff, when trimmed and donned, runs up in value almost to the price of an old time literal velvet; and the worst of it is that whereas only the privileged few could watches and damonds, now nearly every third woman you meet upon the street has a stunning velvenes aut on of some that and texture, no single one of which can come under the terrible sum of (lowest forty dollars, and more likely cost from eighty dollars to \$150. One case only has come to the knowledge of the writer of this article of a superb velveteen black suff worn by a lady of this city, which, the hady in question has assured the writer, did not cost her one cent. The details, however, leaked out, after a little desploy; conversation, in the fact that it was a present to her irrom an (of course) overmidulgent husband.

A gentieman of this city insists that, scated in the parior window of a private house on one of the stylish cross streets, he counted, on a certain sunday afternoon, no less than 250 velveteen suits, each and all upholseered—not trimmed—after the most elaborate pattern and varying in color from bright camery to funereal black. Of course, such a full dress shander could only proceed from the found millinery openings quoted above.

But, apropos of the universal "upholstering" in lieu of sessions which is the condensation of the present

Roy." Verily the traditionary "McGregor's gathering" was nothing to the gathering of his modern adherents. As for the crossed plaids, unknown to Scottish fame and old-time clais, but very beautiful notwithstanding, slicy are like the crossed blood and as numerous as the old-line clais, but very beautiful notwithstanding, slicy are like the crossed blood and as numerous as the old-line clais, but very beautiful notwithstanding, slicy are like the crossed in the city, and the quantity is yearly on the increase.

A superb d'Alençon shawi was worn a short time since at a marriage reception by a married belie of this city, which shawl has been authentically appraised at the modest sum of \$10,000.

A still more expensive dounce of the original poult de Venise, the most expensive and rarest lace known, of which there is actually very little extant, has also found its way to this wonderful city, and—valued at \$1,000 per yard—lately trimmed the wedding dress of another queen of fashion to the extent and value of \$60,000. That is its weight many times over in pirre gold; very nearly in invaluable diamonds.

A celebrated race merchant of this city has a superb specimen of d'Alençon flounce, emough to trim a dress, valued at \$20,000.

Some months since the rumor went about the city that one of our leading jewellers was about to purchase the world-renowned "Sancy" diamond. Be that as it may, save for historical gems the American stock of precious stones is known to be a wondrously superb and valuable one; and, but for the matter of diamonds and possibly ribles and opals as well, the two Americas—North and South—are now the jewel markets of the modern world.

But we are an extravagant people in everything Granted. In some cases—in most it must be conceded—we can afford to be.

Formerly a lady even in fashionable life could fress say on \$500 a year. Now she cannot properly sustain her needed chappes of purple and fine linen, to be in the fashion, on less than \$1,200 per year; and, if she includes her changeable gossamer wings

superior in the navy, should be allowed to remain unfinished on the stocks. Were the latter to be completed and kept in our harbor, it is claimed by naval officers of admitted worth and standing, if for no other immediate purpose than displaying hergyreat strength and beauty, she would more than repay the cost of her completion in showing the marine of other nations who visit our port that we have an iron-clad which can resist twenty-inch shot. There are three other vessels of the same size and description of the kalamazoo, i.e., Shakamoxon, the stocks at Philadelphia; Passaconaway, at Pertsmouth, N. H., and the Quinsigamond, fleston, Mass. The Kalamazoo, on the stocks at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, was designed by Naval Constructor Delanc and commenced in 1865. Work was assepended on her nearly two years ago, since which time she has been housed over. She is a double turretted monitor, carrying a battery of four twenty-inch guns, two for each turret, the iron plating of which latter being fourteen inches in thickness. Her tonnage, according to old measurement, is 3,200; new measurement, 2197. Her length of deck is 352 feet 6 inches; length over all, 345 feet 5 inches; breadth of hull proper, 53 feet; outside of armor, 5e feet 8 inches. Her frame is of unusual strength. A perfect trues, formed of iron bands, running longitudinally and athwart shos, form an interior bracing so from y botted and screwed to strong steel straps that were the wood work taken off she would form an iron bridge. Her sides are formed of alternate layers of white oak, which is the tumber used, and square bars of from, eight mehes in thickness, the total thickness of the sides being five neet. The ventilation is furnished by a registrar running for and aft along the sides of the vessel with an opening in each stateroom, and wherever else a cool current of air may be necessary. The register is supplied by four blowers. The decks are to be twelve inches in thickness, consisting of three inches of fron, alternating with a like thickness of the e

MARINE TRANSFERS.

The following is a statement of the marine trans fers at this port from the 1st to the 3d inst., inclu

Date.	Class.	Name.	Timenage.	Share.	Pein
April 1	Steamb't	Daniel Cor	74 1-100	Whole	11/20/20
April 1	Canalb't.	B. M. Greenman.	T125 ON-100	757 1 44 14	4,tX
April 1	Barge	Anna	314 73-100	1-4	
April 1		E. R. Bennett			
April I	Schr	Boutta	18 60-100		
April 1.		Blespy Hollow	750	1.2	30.0
April 1.		J. L. Overton			1.5
April 1.		Wm. Taber		Whole	L. H
April 1.	Barge.	Mattabassett		Whole	
April 1.		William Taggard		Whole	trai
April 1.	Brig	Enacy.	219 8-100	1.8	1,0 3,7 1,0
April 2.		David Cox	74 1-100 219 8-100	Whole	3,7
April 2.	Schr	David S. Miller.	131 7-100		1
April 2.		David S. Miller.			10.00
April 2.		Ningara		Whole	4,0
April 3.	diam	General Green	17	TY BOILE	
April B.		Jericho Bell		Whole	1 1.1
April 3.		Glide			3.0
April B.		Independence	134 35-100		
April 8.	Barge	Independence	184 (8-100		

DEPARTURE OF STEAMSHIPS.

rne following European and coastwise steamers left this port yesterday:-

ty-eight cabin passengers and a full cargo of general merchandise.
General Meade, Captain A. W. Sampson, for New Orleans, with eleven cabin and six steerage passengers, and a cargo of general merchandise.

The Bienville, Captain J. B. Baker, for New Orleans, calling at Havana, with twenty-one passengers, \$265,000 in specie, and a fair freight.

The Thames, Captain Pennington, bound for Galveston, Texas, with three passengers, and two-thirds of a cargo.

The Vicksburg, Captain Burton, for New Orleans, no passengers, and two-thirds of a cargo.

The Cortes, Captain Nelson, for New Orleans, with four cabin and seven steerage passengers, and full cargo.

cargo. The Champion, Captain R. W. Lockwood, for Charleston and Florida ports, with twenty-five cabin and five steerage passengers, and full cargo. The Isaac Bell, Captain Bourne, for Norfolk, City Point and Richmond, with twenty-three cabin and four steerage passengers, and a full assorted cargo.

MAYOR'S OFFICE.

The business in the License Bareau of the Mayor's

Office was unusually brisk during the past week not particularly in the way of the issuing of licenses

but in consequence of the extraordinary number of cases entered upon the complaint book for investi-

gation and disposal. What with charges of collision with malicious intent to do damage, swindling

by bogus intelligence office keepers, usury on the part of pawnbrokers, failures of

expressmen to deliver goods placed in their care, robbery by bogus jewellers, fraud by unicensed

pawnbrokers styling themselves "brokers and com-mission merchants," munching by biting horses,

pawnbrokers styling themselves "brokers and commission merchants," munching by biting horses, nipping by victous dogs, crueity to animals, short weights by various retail desiers and badness on the part of hackmen, Ac., &c., the time, pasience and good nature of Marshal Tooker and his assistants. Daly and Hart, are pretty well exhausted. The detective officers, McGrath and Youry, assigned to the Mayor's Office, are kept on the constant tramp and it is creditable to the workings of the office to record the complete success of the efforts made to have justice satisfied in all appeals made to the Marshal. The disposition shown to serve the lowly with their really trivial, but to them all important complaints, is creditable to the hearts of the officials in this department, and by this courteous treatment they gain, as they are well entitled to have, the blessings of the poor, and display their possession of a true idea of the meaning of the word "democratic," Interrogations of every conceivable kind and conundrums well calculated to puzzie the end men in a first class band of minstrels are put to the Marshal momentarily by all kinds of people, in various languages, and thus the interpreter of the bureau finds his services in wonderful demand, although it is but fair to say there is good excuse if he does not immediately see the objective point of his vis-a-vis, and the Marshal is beforged with his energetic explanations.

Among the many interesting cases pinced before the Marshal yesterday was the complaint of a right-ened individual residing in Newark, which goes to show that

ened individual residing in Newars, which goes to show that

A NEW JERSEYMAN CAN BE BEAT.

Otto Monheimer, a gentleman having a place of residence in Newars, N. J., and a modest and unussuming disposition, which was evidenced by his request that "them there reporter fellows" be not permitted to learn of his adventures in the metropolis, made an afflavit wherein he stated that he formed the acquaintance of a firm by the name of Dibbiec & Geery, doing business gat No. 179 Broadway, and after partaking with those excellent gentlemen not more than two glasses of liquor became so stupefied that he was easily induced to risk his stamps on a game of chance. Singular enough his linex failed him in his hour of need, and he parted from the company of the aforesaid friends minus fifty-six dollars. Having read in the Hirkaan of the peculiar ability of the Mayor's blonde Marshal for laying out swindlers, he made application to that official, who promptly sent his compilments to Mesars. Dibblee & Geery by officer McGrath, accompanied by a request to prop you which politeness being duly appreciated, its object was gratified, and so was Mr. Monheimer when he saw his greenbacks once more.

Another dose of

ness being duly appreciated, its object was gratified, and so was Mr. Monheimer when he saw his green-backs once more.

Another dose of

GODFREY'S CORDIAL.

Mr. Jacob Levus made an affidavit before the Marshal, of which the following is the substance:—In the month of March, 1867, he borrowed of Mr. Godfrey—whose name has heretofore appeared in these reports—"broker and commission merchant," doing business at No. 304 Grand street, the sum of twenty-five doilars, leaving as collateral security a valuable silk dress; at the expiration of the year he paid defendant interest at the rate of twenty-five per cent per annum, and received the information that the dress could not longer be kept at that rate, but \$2 60 per month) would be required. This statement was made by Mr. Godfrey immediately after the complainant spoke of his inability to redeem the dress; of course the complainant was forced to comply with the outrageous demand and continued to pay that amount regularly every month save one until eleven of them had sped away. The one month in which he falled gave the opportunity to Mr. Godfrey, which the latter seized, to exact as extra compensation for his disappointment, the sum of one doilar for storage besides the interest money, making \$3 60 for that

disappointment, the sum of one deliar for storage besides the interest money, making \$3.90 for that one month. Complainant afterwards was enabled to settle in full and redeem his wife's dress; but finding upon computation that he had been financially abused, he resolved to seek satisfaction at the hands of Marshal Tooker. Mr. Godfrey has been notified to appear as one of the characters in the trial, which will come off to-morrow at noon.

There are eleven other important cases, of dissimilar nature, though, upon the books for examination at noon to-morrow. During the week the Marshal has issued 164 licenses, as follows:—Carts, 65; venders, 37; drivers, 31; express, 31; porters, 5; junk shop, 1; boarding house, 1, and coach, 1. For licenses and thes he received \$289.50, and he caused to be refunded to various complainants \$518.50.

BROOKLYN NAVY YARD. The Iron-Clad Kalamazao It is to be regretted that, while the Navy Department is pursuing this wholesome system of reduction of the expenses of each and every branch of the

Construction Bureau, an exception should not be made in some instances, and that such vessels as the Kalamazoo, which is one of the most superior in the navy, should be allowed to remain unfinished on the stocks. Were the

latter to be completed and kept in our harbor

Park at half-past seven o'clock last evening in honor of Major General Woodward. The General was sere, naded at his house in Sands street. The Europa, Captain Craig, for Glasgow and Lonlonderry, twenty-four cabin and fifty-eight steerage passengers. Cargo—52 barrels hams 1,000 cars, 20 hogsheads of tailow, 100 barrels of pork, 390 tierces of beef, 254 barrels of rosin, 10 tierces of lard, 800 barrels of flour, 40 boxes of bacon, 180 bags of oil cake, 5 casks whale oil and about 30,000 bushels of coru. The Cuba, Captain Moodie, for Liverpool, stopping at Queenstown, with about sixty passengers and

ALLEGED RIVER THIEVES.—Bernard Hunt and Maurice Sullivan were yesterday held by Justice Voorhies to answer a charge of grand larceny. The accused were arrested at Greenpoint, having in their possession 3,000 pounds of tallow, stolen from a sloop in the East river. The tallow was owned by B. L. Barsall. RUN OVER ACCIDENT .- A boy ten years old, named at Queenstown, with about sixty passengers and a full cargo of cotton, grain, hope and provisions. The Pennsylvania, Captain Hall, for Liverpool, stopping at Queenstown, with fourteen cabin and forty steerage passengers, and a cargo of 7,600 bushels of wheat, 6,000 of corn, 2,350 bales of cotton, 650 tierces of lard, 1,400 boxes of bacon, 300 tierces of beef, fifty hogsheads of citron bark and thirty hogsheads of tobacco.

The Atlanta, Captain Dixon, for London, with twenty cabin and fifty-four steerage passengers, and a full cargo of general merchandise.

BROOKLYN INTELLIGENCE.

A SALUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL WOODWARD .-

alute of thirteen guns was fired in the City Hall

William Sproul, was run over by a hearse on Broad-way yesterday afternoon and it is believed was fa-

way yesterday atternoon and it is believed was in-tally injured. He was taken to his home at the cor-ner of North First street and Union avenue, and the driver of the vehicle, Philip Leonard, was arrested by the police of the Forty-inth precinct and locked up on a charge of reckless driving. NEWS IN BRIEF.—David Egan, a workman, had his left hand badly crushed by a bar of iron, which

his left hand badly crushed by a bar of 1ron, which all on him while at work on the corner of Perris and Walcot streets.

The residence of Richard Marsh, corner Greene and Patchen avenues, on Friday evening was entered and robbed of a watch by a sneak thief.

A pickpocket pinch his vocation with considerable success in one of the Fulton avenue cars on Friday evening last. A Mrs. Conkling was relieved of a portemonnaic containing six dollars.

DEATH OF A VETERAN FIREMAN.-The funera obsequies of Thomas Heyden, Assistant Engineer of the Eastern District Fire Department, will be held at St. Vincent de Paul's church, North Sixth street, Eastern District, this afternoon, when Rev. David Muliane will deliver the funeral oration. Mr. Heyden died at the residence of his parents on Friday last, after a protracted illness. Chief Engineer Smith, the Board of Engineers, and the department generally will accompany the remains to Calvary Cemetery.

FATAL RESULT OF A SHOOTING ACCIDENT .- COTOner Jones was notified yesterday to hold an inquest the City Hospital from the effects of a guishot wound in the knee. The deceased received the wound last fall while on a target excursion in East New York, and has since been under surgical treatment, but to no avail. The shooting was purely accidental, and a verdict in accordance with the facts was rendered by the coroner's jury. The parents of young Custer reside at No. 337 Columbia street, South Brooklyn.

POLICEMEN ASSAULTED AND BEATEN.-During & disturbance which occurred on the corner of Hamil ton avenue and Columbia street, about half-past twelve o'clock on Saturday morning, officer Dobbius, of the Forty-third precinct, who attempted to arrest one of the party engaged in the quarret, was beaten severely. The officer charges that his club was saken from him by a person named Thomas Nevias, who struck him with the baton about the head and face several times. Officer Jersey, of the same precinct, came up while the sendle was going on, bent upon giving and to his overpowered comrade, but he was soon compelled to seek his own safety, minus his locust, which was wrested from him by the crowd. Jersey was not injured, however. Finally a section of policemen from the station house arrived on the scene, but were too tate; the "birds had flown," and consequently no arrests were made. Political Excitensity Over the Appointments. Not for many months past has so much ex-

citement existed among the office-seeking patriots, yciept politicians as pervades that interesting body of our fellow citizens at the present time. Since the signing of the bill for the reorganization of the Water and Sewerage Board of Brooklyn by the Governor the aspirants for the positions created by the act have been exerting themselves to the utmost to secure the fat places made and provided for the fortunate four—whoever they may prove to be. The act in question directs that the Mayor, Comptroller, City Treasurer and Corporation Counsel shall meet within twenty days in the Mayor's office and appoint four commissioners to serve as a Sewerage and Water Commission. The saiary attached is only \$5,000 per annum, but the department over which they have control is an extensive and important one, and one which involves unlimited outlay, as there is really no check or limit as to the amount which they may expend. The commission will have charge of grazing, naving and cleaning streets and all the duties appertaining to the Water Board. The state as it now stands is as follows:—Archibaid Bliss and John Cashow, republicans; William Fowler and Thomas Kinsella, democrats. Mr. Fowler is a member of the old Water Board and Mr. Kinselia is managing editor of a Brooklyn paper. With regard to the federal appointments in the Second and Third-Collection districts, Internal Revenue, it is a remarkable fact that the claims of the so-called political leaders of the republican purty in Kings county have been utterly ignored. Mr. Precland, appointed as Collector for the Second district, in place of Mr. Torry, the present incumbent, was here-tofore unknown in politics. He owes has appointment wholy to the personal exertion of Rev. H. W. Beecher. Mr. Gordon L. Pord, who takes the position occupied by Colonel E. T. Wood, in the Third district, is a lawyer who has not been prominently dentified in the politics of this county for the past rew years. yelept politicians as pervades that interesting body of our fellow citizens at the present time. Since the

SEAMEN'S FUND AND RETREAT

Annual Report of the Officers of the Institution-Its Beneficial Results and Financial Condition.

The annual report of the officers of the Seamen's

Fund and Retreat, located on Staten Island, for the year 1868, has just made its appearance and gives a very creditable account of the results of the institution. From this report it appears that during the year there were admitted 917 patients, while on the list of December, 1887, there were remaining at the institute 132. The number discharged at their own discharged, \$8, and 50 died, making the whole num-

request was 29; cured, 769; partially relieved and discharged, 88, and 50 died, making the whole number of discharged and died 935, leaving as immates of the Retreat on the 1st of January last 113. The whole amount of money deposited by patients for safe keeping on entering the Retreasduring the year 1868 was \$224. The balance on hand December 31, 1867, from the same source was \$400. There was repaid to patients on leaving the sum of \$1,179, and \$149 remained in the treasury on the beginning of the new year.

Among the patients at the Retreat during the year no less than forty-one nationalities were represented, though the table of the report makes it forty-three. But how the officers came to classify Germans, Prassians and Austrians as three distinct nationalities while they are but one it is difficult to say. According to a proper classification there were admitted during the year 196 Germans, 152 Americans, 126 Englishmen, 73 Swedes, 65 Norweglans, 65 Irishmen, 48 Scotchmen, 28 Dance, and the rest from 33 other nationalities, among whom are found Greeks, Africans, Chinese and even Hindoos, For professional men and statisticians generally the table of diseases will prove very interesting and instructive. We extract from it, that of intermittent fever there were treated 56 cases, of remittent, 15; typhoid, 8; typhus, 1; rheumatism, 48; chronic rheumatism, 12; scorbuius, 36; primary syphilis, 52; chronic dysentery, 24, of whom 5 died; abscesses, 27; phthisis pnimonalis, 32, with 12 deaths; paronychia, 17. From a comparative table, giving the number of patients admitted and those who died at the institute since its opening on October 31, 1831, it is shown that the number admitted last year was smaller than during any year since 1834, while the ratio of deaths is much larger. In the report of the physican-in-chief, Dr. Moffatt, several improvements are recommended, particularly as to a better system of the treasurer on the 1st of January last of \$1,508.

HOMICIDE MARSHAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PERALD:-The Rogers murder excitement having abated, and all the accused parties discharged, it is about time to anticipate another tragedy of a like character, and in order to guard against a repetition of blundsring and conflicting interests such as were manifested in the conflicting interests such as were maniested in the Hogers affair, we suggest to the Mayor and District Attorney the appointment of a suitable person to be denominated "Homicide Marshal," whose duty it shall be to investigate with the police and coroshail be to investigate with the police and coroners the facts and uil the attending circumstances in
cases of murder or any death of a suspicious character, and to commit such evidence to writing and
thoroughly prepare the case for the prosecuting attorney. Some lifteed years ago the office of a fire
marsial was created by A. E. Baker for the investigation of fires in this city. We all know how admirably it was conducted by him and the usefulness of
the office permanently established. The office saved
the underwriters thousands of dollars and many bad
fellows who set their places on fire were sent to the
State Prison.

fellows who set their places on fire were sent to the State Prison.

We now propose to have just such an officer appointed to take charge of homicide cases, and we know of no more competent person than ex-fire Marshal Baker. He is well versed in criminal law and possesses excellent detective ability, understands the fine points of evidence and how to preserve them in order to link the chain of facts together, whereby guilt in many cases can possibly be only made to appear.

During the past few years we have witnessed the great want of such an officer. The Spicer poisoning case in Amily street, a short time ago, for instance. Had that suspicious affair been at once placed in the hands of an experienced Homicke Marshal how different would have been the result. As the case was managed the whole matter remains to this day a mystery.

mystery.

It is evident there must be an officer appointed to take charge of such cases; and we call on the Mayer and District Attorney to do it at once. Ex-Fire Marainal Baker is the man for the place.